

## **Green Business Best Management Practices**

### **Green Landscaping Services**

Please use the following sustainability practices as a guide when assessing your landscaping business and creating an environmental management plan.

- Blow grass clippings and leaves back onto lawn and use as mulch - avoid storm drains and paved surfaces.
- Use low nitrogen or non-toxic fertilizers and pesticides. Use sparingly and NEVER within one foot of curbing, driveways and waterways.
- Encourage the use of native plants, shrubs and trees.
- Keep sediment of yard waste piles at least one foot away from curb, driveway or waterways.
- Store chemicals out of rain and away from roadways, storm drains and waterways. Chemicals include fertilizers, pesticides, lubricants, waste oil, fuel, antifreeze and hydraulic oil.
- Store materials, stockpiles, and equipment out of rain and wind when possible. If outdoors, cover with plastic sheeting. Drain fluids from equipment left for long-term storage.
- Inspect equipment and vehicles often for leaks. Transfer fluids carefully- use drip pans or drop cloths to catch spills.
- Never hose down spills. Keep absorbent materials onsite (kitty litter) for prompt spill cleanup.

The sustainability of a business is dependent on the decisions made regarding development and management practices. Overall, it is in the best interest of a business to ensure best management practices are incorporated in all levels of decision making to preserve and protect the natural and human environments upon which its operation relies.